

SECRET

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2. Mr. Harold Baynton, Chief Counsel for the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, called to ask if the United States had a detection system for detecting atomic explosions prior to 1947. He added that this question arose in a Committee meeting and said that if the answer were classified to forget about it. We shall check with OSI on this.

3. Spencer Beresford, Staff Director of the House Science and Astronautics Committee, called to say that his Committee will begin hearings next week on the so-called "lunik hoax." He indicated that the Committee was interested in the fact that there were relatively few reports from tracking stations indicating that they had picked up signals from the lunik as it allegedly orbited the sun. He said that Lloyd Mallan, author of the TRUE magazine story, "The Big Red Lie," had been called as a witness. He added that Mallan had indicated that there was a classified report on this subject. Beresford asked if we had any views on this subject. He said they would like to have the Agency testify before the Committee some time during the latter part of next week and arbitrarily suggested Friday, 15 May. He was advised that we would check on this and be back in touch with him.

Beresford also mentioned that a Mr. Bennom had indicated to the Committee staff that he had tapes of signals picked up in Hawaii on the lunik. Bennom said that these tapes were left with him one evening by John Puzsini who said he was from NSA. Puzsini said he was leaving the tapes with Bennom for his analysis and review and that he would pick them up. To date he has not returned. Bennom said he checked Puzsini in the telephone directory and when he called the number listed found it was a grocery store which had no connection with him. Beresford thought we might be interested in the matter.

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